

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-01 HA-05 L-03  
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12  
MCT-01 /133 W

-----049579 161959Z /70

R 161855Z FEB 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6078  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 02451

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM UNHRC  
SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: AGENDA ITEM 11:  
FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

1. ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15, THE COMMISSION INTERRUPTED  
ITS CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 6, VIOLATION OF HUMAN  
RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, TO ACCOMMODATE PRINCESS ASHRAF,  
HEAD OF THE IRANIAN DELEGATION, WHO FOUND IT CONVENIENT  
TO GIVE HER STATEMENT AT THAT TIME.

2. PRINCESS ASHRAF'S STATEMENT ECHOED THE NOW-FAMILIAR  
IRANIAN THEME THAT EMPHASIS ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS  
IN H UN WAS DUE TO PAST WESTERN DOMINATION AND THAT THE  
EMPHASIS HAS NOW SHIFTED TO ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL  
RIGHTS. THE PRINCESS STATED THAT THE UNIVERSAL DECLARA-  
TION WAS AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF WORK BUT DESPITE ITS  
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VALUES, IT WAS A HUMAN PIECE OF WORK AND REFLECTS THE  
THINKING OF A CERTAIN PERIOD. SHE ADDED THAT THE  
POLITICAL REALITIES ARE CHANGING AND WESTERN IDEAS HAVE  
BEEN PLACED IN THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE WITH THE DEVELOP-  
MENT OF THE CONCEPT OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS. THE SPEECH  
EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RES. 32/130 AS MODIFYING  
THE UN APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND NOTED THE IMPLEMENTA-

TION OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER WAS ESSENTIAL TO PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE SPEECH MADE REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL ON CONDITION THAT SUCH PROMOTION IS NOT UTILIZED FOR POLITICAL ENDS AND STATED THAT CRITICISM OF RES. 32/130 WAS BASED ON MISUNDERSTANDING AS IT DOES NOT RELEGATE INDIVIDUAL AND CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS TO THE BACKGROUND BUT PUTS THEM IN PROPER BALANCE WITH OTHER RIGHTS.

3. FOLLOWING THE IRANIAN STATEMENT, AMBASSADOR BEAULNE (CANADA) TOOK THE FLOOR, BEGINNING HIS STATEMENT WITH THE COMMENT THAT WE SHOULD NOT CONCLUDE AFTER THE IRANIAN SPEECH THAT CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS ARE SOMETHING TO HOLD UP WHILE AWAITING ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS. BEAULNE CHASTIZED THE COMMISSION FOR SPENDING HALF OF ITS TIME EACH YEAR ON ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THREE COUNTRIES, CHILE, SOUTH AFRICA, AND ISRAEL. HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION'S FAILURE TO ACT LAST YEAR ON UGANDA AND SAID HIS DELEGATION PROPOSES TO COME BACK TO THAT ISSUE IN DUE TIME. BEAULNE ALSO NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION IS REQUIRED TO ACT ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL REFERRED BY THE GA AND THAT THE POST NEEDS TO BE DE-MYSTIFIED AS TOO MANY GOVERNMENTS PRESUME THE INCUMBENT WOULD BE HOSTILE TOWARDS THEM.

4. THE DELEGATE OF JORDAN EXPRESSED HIS AGREEMENT WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE IRANIAN STATEMENT THAT NEW REALITIES REQUIRE NEW APPROACHES TO HUMAN RIGHTS. HE NOTED THAT HE HAS SUBMITTED A DRAFT RESOLUTION (DOC. L. 1368 - TRANSMITTED AS LAST PARAGRAPH) WHICH IS MEANT AS JUST A STARTER. THE DRAFT CALLS FOR RE-EXAMINATION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND FOR THE CONVENING OF TWO YEARLY SESSIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. (THIS IDEA PARALLELS THE SUGGESTION MADE IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S MARCH, 1977 UN SPEECH WITH RESPECT TO MORE FREQUENT SESSIONS OF THE HRC.)

5. THE LAST SPEAKER, AMB. ZORIN, USSR, OPENED HIS SPEECH BY TAKING ISSUE WITH THE CANADIAN CRITICISM OF THE HRC SAYING HIS DELEGATION WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO TURN TO EXAMINATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN OTHER AREAS AS SOON AS VIOLATIONS CEASE IN SOUTH AFRICA, ISRAEL AND CHILE. ZORIN STATED THE COMMISSION CANNOT FOCUS ON COMMUNICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS WHEN THERE ARE OTHER CASES WHERE MILLIONS ARE CONCERNED. ZORIN PROCEEDED TO ARGUE THAT THE TASK OF ENSURING HUMAN RIGHTS IS THE PRIME CONCERN OF STATES AND THAT ATTEMPTS TO ACT AS IF THE UN HAS PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING HUMAN RIGHTS

ARE IN ERROR. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS ARE A PRE-CONDITION FOR ATTAINMENT OF ALL RIGHTS. CONTINUING THE ARGUMENT ABOUT NON-INTERFERENCE, ZORIN THEN STATED THAT ISSUES OF MASS VIOLATIONS ARE PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN AND THAT INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL DETENTE. ZORIN THUS MANAGED TO ARGUE AGAINST INTERFERENCE AND ALSO TO JUSTIFY IT IN THE SAME BREATH. TURNING TO IMPROVEMENT IN THE WORK AND STRUCTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UN, ZORIN STATED THAT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION ARE OBSOLETE, HAVING BEEN ADOPTED 30 YEARS AGO AND HE AGREED WITH THE JORDANIAN DELEGATE THAT

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 H-01 HA-05 L-03  
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12  
MCT-01 /133 W

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R 161855Z FEB 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6079  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
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THE TERMS OF REFERENCE SHOULD BE REVIEWED. HE ALSO NOTED THAT CREATION OF ANY ADMINISTRATIVE POST SUPPOSEDLY FOR COORDINATION IS NOT APPROPRIATE AND WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE CHARTER IN ATTEMPTING TO PUT A PERSON ABOVE STATES. WITH RESPECT TO THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAM ZORIN READ OFF A LIST OF PROPOSED TOPICS FOR CONCENTRATION SUCH AS STUDY OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY, ELABORATION OF A DOCUMENT ON THE USE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ATTAINMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ATTAINMENT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE ARMS RACE, RESTRUCTURING OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS TO ENSURE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CUL-

TURAL RIGHTS, AND THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF INTERNATIONAL MONOPOLIES.

6. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT IN ADDITION TO CONTINUING TO OBSTRUCT HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATES BY INSERTING DISARMAMENT ISSUES, THE SOVIETS INTEND TO MAKE THEM-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SELVES THE CHAMPION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' EFFORTS TO ASSIGN PRIORITY TO THE ATTAINMENT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS AS A FURTHER CONVENIENT MEANS OF DIVERTING ATTENTION FROM CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

7. TEXT OF JORDANIAN DRAFT FOLLOWS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT COMMENT ON THIS DRAFT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

8. BEGIN TEXT: RECALLING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5(I) OF 16 FEBRUARY 1946 WHICH CREATED THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS,

RECALLING FURTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 1235 (XLII) OF 1967 AND 1503 (XLVIII) OF 1970 WHICH WIDENED THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION,

NOTING THAT THE MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION HAVE INCREASED AND CHANGED CONSIDERABLY SINCE 1946,

NOTING FURTHER THAT THE COMMISSION MAY PROPOSE TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ANY CHANGES IN ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE AS LAID DOWN IN RESOLUTION 5 (I) OF 16 FEBRUARY 1946,

BEARING IN MIND THAT THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL MAY DECIDE TO CONVENE A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMISSION BETWEEN ITS REGULAR SESSIONS IF THE NEED ARISES, (FOOT-NOTE: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1156 (XLI).)

BEARING IN MIND ALSO THAT CONVENING MORE THAN ONE SESSION OF THE COMMISSION WOULD RENDER THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION MORE EFFECTIVE,

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1. CALLS ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO RE-EXAMINE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION WITH A VIEW TO FURTHER SCREENING ITS WORK, IN ORDER TO ENABLE

IT TO ACCORD ATTENTION TO URGENT AND PRESSING GROSS  
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND VIOLATIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL  
FREEDOMS;

2. INVITES THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO CONSIDER  
CONVENING TWO REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION EVERY  
YEAR, ONE TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY AND THE OTHER IN  
OCTOBER, AND TO ALLOCATE THREE WEEKS FOR EACH SUCH  
SESSION. END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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